

Immigration Submission

Jan Gillespie

1) Effect of Immigration on New Zealand.

The rapid population growth over the past 10-15 years has had a negative effect on

- a) the New Zealanders who were born here or arrived here prior to 2008
- b) the New Zealand environment

It is time for the Government to ask New Zealanders (not just business owners) how many people they want to live in their cities and in their country (and how many tourists they want to come and how many overseas students they want) because the population affects New Zealanders life-styles and well-being.

The problems of failing to control the number of immigrants by failing to co-ordinate the numbers arriving with the capacity of the country to accommodate them has caused

- a) the housing crisis – a huge influx of new immigrants increases demand for housing and as a result house prices increase dramatically and with the increase in competition for homes, New Zealanders who were born in New Zealand can no longer afford to buy a home. No-one talks about the housing crisis being caused by an excess of DEMAND from over-population They more the problem to a SUPPLY problem But it is impossible to ramp up building in a sustainable way to solve this problem without huge detriment to other factors as follows:
- b) change in lifestyle necessity – most New Zealanders who were born in NZ loved the way they were brought up in homes with backyards, vegetable gardens, outdoor clothes lines where they can dry their clothes in the sun plus plenty of sun in their own homes and backyards. Now, because of the huge increase in population, more dense multi-storey housing is required with a much reduced lifestyle. It used to be that local people had a say as to what would happen in their local area. Now they are accused of being NIMBIES if they object to change because of the huge increase in population, over which they had no control and no choice.
- c) traffic problems in the larger towns and cities with too many people arriving and needing to use cars to get around because of insufficient infrastructure and public transport for the number of people
- d) water shortages such as in Auckland
- e) sewerage problems as the system cannot cope with the increase in capacity causing sewerage overflows and unsafe beaches as well as contaminating the environment
- f) Storm water problems as the coverage of ground means more and more storm water needs to be piped away rather than soaking into the ground. This would have been less of a problem if cities had allowed tanks for grey water, especially in Auckland since the 1990s when there was a water shortage and the inappropriate decision was made to pipe water from the Waikato, thus causing, in the future, more unsustainable problems for the Waikato.
- g) Lack of capacity in Schools
- h) Lack of capacity in Universities
- i) Stress on the health system, the hospitals and doctors

- j) Stress on the environment as new immigrants take up fishing, tramping, jet skiing, or other recreational activities which formerly were able to be absorbed by the environment when the population was lower.
 - k) Loss of productive horticulture land especially around Auckland which will, in the long run, lead to food shortages from local produce if it continues, requiring more food to be transported longer distances with detrimental climate effects.
 - l) Stress on the capacity of electricity supply and consequent need to more development to the detriment of the environment
 - m) Stress on landfill with more rubbish produced and more waste disposal required
 - n) Increase in carbon dioxide emissions from increase in traffic, increase in transport of goods, increase in waste
- 2) The Government allows huge volumes of immigration (usually because of pressure from business) and takes no responsibility for the negative effect on the large increase in population on local bodies/councils and local people.
 - 3) If a business owner thinks they need extra staff from overseas which they cannot get from the current New Zealand population, then they need to **build** the extra accommodation for those new immigrants before the new immigrants arrive and **pay for the infrastructure** required because of the new immigrant(s). After all, the business wants the benefit of increasing the population of NZ, therefore, the business needs to pay for the effects of that increase in population, not pass the costs on to all other taxpayers as well as causing an overall decrease in well-being and affecting lifestyle.
 - 4) The huge numbers of immigration are causing another “colonization” effect, this time on not only Maori, but also, those New Zealander who have lived in NZ for generations. The loss of land and lifestyle caused by overseas “investors” and the volume of new immigrants has been huge over the past 10-15 years.
 - 5) The cost of overseas students to NZ is greater than the supposed wealth created for NZ. Overseas students cause a transfer of wealth from current NZ residents to the owners of the “Education” business because these owners do not pay the costs of accommodation, transport, waste collection, emissions, increase in water use, sewerage use, storm water relating to additional accommodation use etc. In addition, the overseas students cause an increase in restaurant usage, which causes an increase in demand for staff/chefs to cater to them which causes more immigration and the problem escalates!
 - 6) The Government needs to **strictly** limit numbers of
 - a. Tourists – all tourists should require a visa irrespective of where they come from and they should all require HEALTH INSURANCE and ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
 - b. Resident visas
 - c. Student visas
 - d. All immigration

But, really, do NZers want **any** increase in population – or is it only recent immigrants wanting to bring in relatives and friends, plus businesses who want cheaper labour rather than training available workforce and paying reasonable rates? Shouldn't you ask the question of all NZers by referendum and what about the increasing effects on Maori? How much control has Maori had over the huge increase in population? What reference to the Treaty of Waitangi for seemingly uncontrolled huge population growth?

PLUS, we have to allow for NZers living overseas to be able to return (as evidenced during this COVID pandemic). So, how many people can NZ REALLY sustainably have in the country? We cannot even reduce our carbon emissions by 2030 and have to buy overseas offsets so it is obvious we cannot even support the people already in the country sustainably.

I have found that the increase in population during my lifetime of 68 years has caused a huge detrimental impact on the environment and the lifestyle which was lucky to have growing up.

IT IS TIME TO STOP THE INCREASE IN POPULATION BY STOPPING IMMIGRATION in ALL AREAS except perhaps HEALTH until we can train enough doctors and nurses (with bonds in place to keep them here in return for reduced cost of training).